

List of claims:

1. (currently amended) A tunable drum comprising
a hollow drum shell,
drumheads closing the ends of said drum shell,
an opening in said drum shell for acoustic venting, and
valve means for adjusting the size of said opening to vary the amount of
acoustic venting.

2. (currently amended) A drum according to claim 1 in which
the variation in acoustic venting varies the volume, pitch, tone, timbre
and stick response of said drum.

3. (currently amended) A drum according to claim 1
A tunable drum comprising,
a hollow drum shell,
drumheads closing the ends of said drum shell,
an opening through said drum shell for acoustic venting,
means for adjusting the size of said opening to vary the amount of
acoustic venting, and
****said size adjusting means comprises a slide valve movable between an****
****open and a closed position.****

**4. (currently amended) A drum according to claim 4 3, in which
said drum shell has a plurality of venting openings, and
said size adjusting means comprises a plurality of valves movable be-
tween an open and a closed position.**

**5. (currently amended) A drum according to claim 4 4,
~~said drum shell has a plurality of venting openings, and~~
~~said size adjusting means comprises a plurality of valves movable be-~~
~~tween an open and a closed position.~~**

Including means for moving said valves together.

**6. (currently amended) A drum according to claim 3 5, in which
said valves are movable pivotally between an open and a closed posi-
tion, and
said size adjusting means comprises means for moving said valves piv-
otally.**

**7. (currently amended) A drum according to claim 4 3, in which
said drum has a plurality of venting openings
said size adjusting means comprises a plurality of valve means movable
between an open and a closed position relative to said openings, and**

means for moving said valve means between said open and closed positions.

**8. (original claim) A drum according to claim 7, in which
said drum has a plurality of venting openings
said valve means comprises a ring member having openings corre-
sponding to said drum venting openings,
said ring member being movable between an open and a closed position
relative to said openings, and
said size adjusting means comprises means for moving said ring mem-
ber between said open and closed positions.**

**9. (original claim) A drum according to claim 8, in which
said ring member is positioned for rotation inside said drum.**

**10. (original claim) A drum according to claim 8, in which
said ring member is imperforate and positioned for rotation and endwise
sliding movement inside said drum to cover or uncover said venting openings.**

**11. (original claim) A drum according to claim 8, in which
said ring member is positioned for rotation outside said drum.**

**12. (original claim) A drum according to claim 8, in which
said ring member is positioned for rotation inside said drum, and includ-
ing**

**an operating member secured on said ring member and extending out-
side said drum, and**

**said operating member being effective to rotate said ring member to
vary the size of the drum openings.**

**13. (original claim) A drum according to claim 8, in which
said ring member is positioned for rotation outside said drum, and in-
cluding**

**an operating member secured on said ring member and extending out-
side said drum, and**

**said operating member being effective to rotate said ring member to
vary the size of the drum openings.**

**14. (original claim) A drum according to claim 8, in which
said ring member is positioned for rotation inside said drum, and includ-
ing**

**an operating handle secured on said ring member and extending outside
said drum, and**

**said operating handle being effective to rotate said ring member to vary
the size of the drum openings.**

**15. (original claim) A drum according to claim 8, in which
said ring member is positioned for rotation outside said drum, and in-
cluding**

**an operating handle secured on said ring member outside said drum,
and**

**said operating handle being effective to rotate said ring member to vary
the size of the drum openings.**

**16. (original claim) A drum according to claim 8, in which
said ring member is positioned for rotation inside said drum, and includ-
ing**

**a bolt member secured on said ring member and extending outside said
drum, and**

**said bolt member being effective to rotate said ring member to vary the
size of the drum openings and on turning to a tightened position to fix said
ring member in position.**

**17. (currently amended) A drum according to claim 3, in which
said drum has a first plurality of coplanar venting openings around the
periphery thereof and a second plurality of coplanar venting openings around
the periphery thereof spaced from said first plurality of openings,
said size adjusting means comprises a plurality of valves movable be-
tween an open and a closed position, and
means for moving said valves between an open and a closed position.**

**18. (currently amended) A drum according to claim 3, in which
said drum has a first plurality of venting openings around the periphery
thereof and a second plurality of coplanar venting openings around the pe-
riphery thereof spaced from said first plurality of openings,
said size adjusting means comprises a first ring member having open-
ings corresponding to said first plurality of drum venting openings, and a sec-
ond ring member having openings corresponding to said second plurality of
drum venting openings
said first and second ring members being movable between an open and
a closed position relative to said drum venting openings, and
an operating member secured to said first and said second ring mem-
bers for moving for moving them together to adjust the openings defined by
said drum venting openings and said ring member openings between said
open and closed closed positions.**

19. (original claim) A drum according to claim 3, in which

said drum has a tensioning ring for securing a drumhead under high

tension on the drumshell,

said tensioning ring having an upstanding rim portion,

said drum has a first plurality of venting openings around the periphery

the drumshell and a second plurality of coplanar venting openings around the

periphery of said rim portion spaced from said first plurality of openings,

said size adjusting means comprises a first ring member having open-

ings corresponding to said first plurality of drum venting openings, and a sec-

ond ring member having openings corresponding to said second plurality of

drum venting openings,

said first and second ring members being movable between an open and

a closed position relative to said drum venting openings, and

an operating handle secured to said first and said second ring members

for moving for moving them together to adjust the openings defined by said

drum venting openings and said ring member openings between said open and

closed positions.

20. (currently amended) The combination with a drum having a plurality

of venting openings in the drumshell, of

a ring membr member of a size having a sliding fit in the drumshell for

movement between an open and a closed position relative to said openings.

**21. (original claim) A combination according to claim 20 in which,
the drum has a plurality of venting openings in the drumshell, and
said ring member has openings, is split at one place, and has com-
pressed spring means tending to expand the ring member to fit tightly inside
said drum, and**

**said ring member is movable between an open and a closed position
relative to said openings.**

**22. (original claim) A combination according to claim 21 in which,
the drum has a plurality of venting openings in the drumshell, and
said ring member has openings corresponding to said drum venting
openings,**

**said ring member is movable between an open and a closed position
relative to said openings.**

**23. (original claim) A combination according to claim 21 in which,
the drum has a plurality of venting openings in the drumshell, and
said ring member is imperforate, and movable endwise of the drumshell
between an open and a closed position across said openings.**

**24. (original claim) A combination according to claim 21 in which,
there are two ring members,**

**means supporting said ring members in fixed spaced relation, and
handles extending from said supporting means to a point outside said drum
for moving said rings in the drum shell.**

**25. (original claim) A combination according to claim 21 in which,
there are two ring members,
handle means supporting said ring members in fixed spaced relation,
and extending from said supporting means to a point outside said drum for
moving said rings simultaneously in the drum shell.**

**26. (original claim) The combination with a drum, of
a tensioning ring fitted on the end of the drumshell to tension a drum-
head thereon,
said tensioning ring having a plurality of venting openings therein, and
a ring member of a size having a sliding fit on said tensioning ring for
movement between an open and a closed position relative to said openings.**

**27. (original claim) A combination according to claim 26 in which,
said ring member is of a size having a sliding fit inside said tensioning
ring.**

**28. (currently amended) A combination according to claim 26 in which,
said ring member is of a size having a sliding fit on the outside of said
~~tensioning~~ tensioning ring.**



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Randall L. May)
Serial No: 10/345,891) Art Unit: 3632
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For : Adjustable Tripod Stand)

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence and fee has been deposited in the United States Postal Service, first class postage prepaid, addressed to Mail Stop Amendment ~~with fee~~ Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on March 7, 2005.



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March 7, 2005
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